

- (a) a video recording;
- (b) an audio recording; or
- (c) after all members of the committee

have had a reasonable opportunity to correct their remarks for grammatical errors or to accurately reflect statements, a corrected transcript.

Notwithstanding the above, in the case of the record of an executive session of the committee that is closed to the public pursuant to Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the record shall not be published or made public in any way except by majority vote of the committee after all members of the committee have had a reasonable opportunity to correct their remarks for grammatical errors or to accurately reflect statements made.

Rule 19. *Amendment of Rules.*—The foregoing rules may be added to, modified, amended, or suspended at any time.

## II. EXCERPTS FROM THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE RELATING TO STANDING COMMITTEES

### RULE XXV

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

1. The following standing committees shall be appointed at the commencement of each Congress, and shall continue and have the power to act until their successors are appointed, with leave to report by bill or otherwise on matters within their respective jurisdictions:

\* \* \*

(i) *Committee on Finance*, to which committee shall be referred all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects:

1. Bonded debt of the United States, except as provided in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.
2. Customs, collection districts, and ports of entry and delivery.
3. Deposit of public moneys.
4. General revenue sharing.
5. Health programs under the Social Security Act and health programs financed by a specific tax or trust fund.
6. National social security.
7. Reciprocal trade agreements.
8. Revenue measures generally, except as provided in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.
9. Revenue measures relating to the insular possessions.
10. Tariffs and import quotas, and matters related thereto.
11. Transportation of dutiable goods.

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### RULE XXVI

#### COMMITTEE PROCEDURE

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2. Each committee shall adopt rules (not inconsistent with the Rules of the Senate) governing the procedure of such committee. The rules of each committee shall be published in the Congressional Record not later than March 1 of the first year of each Congress, except that if any such committee is established on or after February 1 of a year, the rules of that committee during the year of establishment shall be published in the Congressional Record not later than sixty days after such establishment. Any amendment to the rules of a committee shall not take effect until the amendment is published in the Congressional Record.

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5. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of the rules, when the Senate is in session, no committee of the Senate or any subcommittee thereof may meet, without special leave, after the conclusion of the first

two hours after the meeting of the Senate commenced and in no case after two o'clock post meridian unless consent therefor has been obtained from the majority leader and the minority leader (or in the event of the absence of either of such leaders, from his designee). The prohibition contained in the preceding sentence shall not apply to the Committee on Appropriations or the Committee on the Budget. The majority leader or his designee shall announce to the Senate whenever consent has been given under this subparagraph and shall state the time and place of such meeting. The right to make such announcement of consent shall have the same priority as the filing of a cloture motion.

(b) Each meeting of a committee, or any subcommittee thereof, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or series of meetings by a committee or a subcommittee thereof on the same subject for a period of no more than fourteen calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in clauses (1) through (6) would require the meeting to be closed, followed immediately by a record vote in open session by a majority of the members of the committee or subcommittee when it is determined that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings—

(1) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(2) will relate solely to matters of committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(3) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(4) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(5) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets of financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if—

(A) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(B) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(6) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations.

(c) Whenever any hearing conducted by any such committee or subcommittee is open to the public, that hearing may be broadcast by radio or television, or both, under such rules as the committee or subcommittee may adopt.

(d) Whenever disorder arises during a committee meeting that is open to the public, or any demonstration of approval or disapproval is indulged in by any person in attendance at any such meeting, it shall be the duty of the Chair to enforce order on his own initiative and without any point of order being made by a Senator. When the Chair finds it necessary to maintain order, he shall have the power to clear the room, and the committee may act in closed session for so

long as there is doubt of the assurance of order.

(e) Each committee shall prepare and keep a complete transcript or electronic recording adequate to fully record the proceeding of each meeting or conference whether or not such meeting or any part thereof is closed under this paragraph, unless a majority of its members vote to forgo such a record.

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### H.J. RES. 41

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I strongly opposed the Republicans' efforts to gut the SEC rule regarding transparency for oil and mining industry payments to foreign governments.

I hope the American people are paying attention. One of the first substantive legislative matters that Republicans are trying to send to the President is a measure that makes it easier for oil companies to corrupt foreign governments and undermine U.S. foreign policy goals.

This bill seeks to unravel human rights and transparency protections implemented by the Obama administration. The rule requires oil and mining companies to tell the SEC how much money they pay to foreign governments to extract natural resources. It is a simple, common-sense requirement to improve transparency and combat corruption in some of the most corrupt and dysfunctional countries in the world. In fact, dozens of other countries require that their companies report payments to foreign governments.

Time and again, we have seen oil and mining companies go into other nations that are poor and lack basic democratic institutions and pay huge sums of money to autocratic corrupt regimes. According to a recent article in *Foreign Affairs*, when Rex Tillerson led Exxon as its chairman and CEO, Exxon "cut lucrative deals with dictators in oil-rich pockets of Africa, extending the lifespans of autocratic regimes in places such as Angola, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Equatorial Guinea." Thanks to their countries' oil reserves, the leaders of these poor countries have been able to remain in power for decades.

Yet the rule is dogged by many myths and falsehoods spurred by the fossil fuels lobby. More than \$200 million was spent by opponents of the rule—the oil and gas industry and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce—on political lobbying and campaign contributions. According to a report in *POLITICO*, when our newly confirmed Secretary of State, Rex Tillerson, was the CEO of Exxon Mobil, he personally lobbied vigorously against transparency and disclosure, saying that if other people knew how much his company paid foreign governments, it would be bad for his business. In fact, Rex Tillerson said that there was one country in particular where this rule would be hard for Exxon—Russia.

Another Republican myth is that U.S. companies are at a competitive

disadvantage because non-U.S. companies do not have to make the same disclosures and the rule applies only to public companies—not true. The U.S. law covers all oil, gas, and mining companies listed on U.S. stock exchanges—not simply companies based in the United States. This includes BP, Shell, and Total, as well as leading state-owned oil companies from China and Brazil, such as PetroChina and Petrobras.

Republicans also claim that this rule increases prices at the pump—again, not true. Corruption costs oil and mining companies millions of dollars every year from instability and fragility in resource-rich countries, which contributes to increased operating risks, waste, inefficiency, and delays.

When leaders tap a country's oil revenues to keep themselves in power, it is called petro-authoritarianism. When the United States allows companies to secretly pay authoritarian governments for rights to their petroleum and mineral resources, we become implicit in the resulting human poverty and rights abuses. We cannot let that stand, which is why we have this SEC reporting requirement.

I urged my colleagues to vote no on this effort to kill the important protections provided by the SEC rule regarding transparency for extractive industry payments to foreign governments. We should be putting human rights interests ahead of the financial interests of a few powerful oil companies. That is why I urged my colleagues to vote against putting the profits of industry above the interests of our Nation and lesser developed nations all over the world.

#### CONFIRMATION OF MICHAEL POMPEO

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, the Senate recently voted to confirm Representative Mike Pompeo to be the Director of the CIA. While I do not agree with many of the views that Congressman Pompeo has expressed in the past, I have worked with him on legislation, and I know that he is a dedicated and experienced public servant. I believe he is qualified to lead the CIA at a critical time in our country's history. I was also extremely concerned about the nature of the President's press conference in front of the CIA memorial wall that honors those who lost their lives while in service. This press conference occurred before Representative Pompeo was confirmed by the Senate, and it provided an additional reason for putting seasoned leadership at the Agency without delay.

Like many of my colleagues, I was concerned about Congressman Pompeo's past views on torture. That is why I personally asked Representative Pompeo about the use of torture, and as he did at his hearing, he stated unequivocally that he would not use illegal enhanced interrogation techniques at the CIA. Senator FEINSTEIN

and I have requested and received written confirmation to reinforce the commitment he made at his hearing to uphold laws that ban torture. As a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I intend to exercise robust oversight to ensure that these laws are upheld.

I am opposed to torture. In 2007, I voted against Michael Mukasey for Attorney General because of his views on waterboarding. In 2015, I voted to strengthen the legal prohibition on torture by limiting interrogation techniques and requiring that the Red Cross has access to all detainees. I have also introduced bipartisan legislation, the Torture Victims Relief Act, to support torture treatment programs in the United States and abroad to help torture survivors recover from their trauma and rebuild productive lives.

The 1984 United Nations Convention Against Torture has been ratified by 157 countries, including the United States. The world continues to look to America for its steadfast leadership and we must continue to fight against the practice of torture and other cruel and inhuman treatments.

#### TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "BILL" CANTY

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I wish to recognize and commend William "Bill" Canty of Oxford, MS, on the occasion of his retirement after a distinguished 27-year career as a staff member for the U.S. Senate.

Bill has earned my respect and that of the thousands of people in north Mississippi who know him as a dedicated field representative on my staff.

I am confident that the tenacity, loyalty, and work ethic that characterized Bill's work for me were forged early in life with the lessons he learned as an outstanding student athlete.

Bill grew up in the shipbuilding town of Pascagoula, MS, where he earned letters in basketball, baseball, and football. As a college freshman at Furman University, he started at quarterback for the Paladins and set school records throughout his college football career, completing 215 passes for 2,460 yards and 24 touchdowns. He was elected unanimously in 1988 for induction into the Furman University Hall of Fame.

Bill played professional football for the Toronto Argonauts, a Canadian Football League organization, but was soon called to serve his country. After serving as an Army combat training officer, he began an extensive coaching career during which he earned a reputation for developing quarterbacks and strong passing offenses—first at Furman, then at Florida State University and the University of New Mexico.

In 1978, Bill returned home to Mississippi to coach at the University of Mississippi. He is one of the only coaches in the SEC to ever have been both the offensive and defensive coordinator in back to back seasons. Bill left coaching in 1987 and settled in Oxford.

Following his coaching career, Bill turned his leadership talents in a new direction. Fellow Pascagoula native and former U.S. Senator Trent Lott first hired Bill as a field representative, and I was fortunate to bring him on my staff in 2008.

Bill has served my office and the people of Mississippi honorably and with great dedication.

I am deeply grateful for having the benefit of his excellent service to our State and Nation.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO TOM BURAK

● Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, today I wish to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Tom Burack and honoring his more than a decade of service to the State of New Hampshire. As commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, he has been a strong advocate for our State and our environment.

Our economic vitality as a State hinges on our pristine lakes and rivers, our clean air, and our strong protection of these natural resources. Under Tom's leadership, the department has focused on combating the serious challenge of climate change and ensuring that New Hampshire citizens and visitors have access to clean air, water, and land while providing excellent customer service—all of which is critical to our State's economy and future success. This includes the development of the 2009 Climate Action Plan, New Hampshire's entrance into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, RGGI, the creation of the MtBE Remediation Bureau, and the formation of the State Government Energy Committee, among many others.

Tom has also led and facilitated a voluntary, informal network of State agency commissioners for 8 years, helping to bring agencies together to improve the operations of and drive innovation and efficiency in State government. He is a leader on the regional and national levels as well, including envisioning and coleading an overall modernization of how environmental protection services are delivered nationwide through a joint State-tribal-Federal initiative known as E-Enterprise for the Environment. All of these actions and the many others that are too numerous to list have helped to strengthen our environment, protect public health, and combat climate change.

New Hampshire's natural resources and scenic beauty must be protected, and doing so requires strong collaboration. As commissioner, Tom embodied New Hampshire's "all-hands-on-deck" spirit, working collaboratively with our neighboring States on issues like RGGI, local communities on issues like water quality and contamination, other State agencies on issues like State government energy efficiency, and partners at the Federal level.